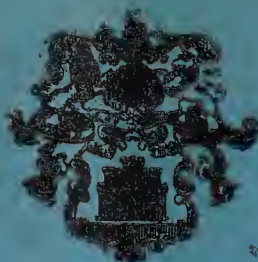


RCB

18(0)



City Council of Gibraltar.



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH OF GIBRALTAR

FOR THE YEAR

1945

BY

Major G. M. FLEMING, M.A., M.B., B.Ch. M.R.C.S.
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

Royal Army Medical Corps
Medical Officer of Health,

with which is included the
Report of the City Analyst and Bacteriologist,
and the
Report of the Medical Officer in Charge, Maternity
and Child Welfare Services.

Printed by the Garrison Library Printing Works.

RCB/180



22501398911



City Council of Gibraltar.

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH OF GIBRALTAR

FOR THE YEAR

1945

BY

**Major G. M. FLEMING, M.A., M.B., B.Ch. M.R.C.S.
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,**

**Royal Army Medical Corps
Medical Officer of Health,**

**with which is included the
Report of the City Analyst and Bacteriologist,
and the
Report of the Medical Officer in Charge, Maternity
and Child Welfare Services.**

WELLS FARTHER	
CON	
CON	Ann Rep
NO.	WA28
	.EG5
	G44
	L945

LIST OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
METEOROLOGICAL REPORT	1
VITAL STATISTICS	5
Causes of Death	6
BIRTHS AND INFANTILE MORTALITY	7
INFANT & CHILD WELFARE	8
SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE	9
PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES	12
INVESTIGATION AND PREVENTION OF OTHER DISEASES	17
Flies and Rats Repression Measures	19
Medical Work Done for the Council	20
Disinfection	20
Ambulance Service	21

LIST OF CONTENTS—*Continued.*

 SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

Water	... ..	22
Refuse Collection and Dispersal	... ..	22
Sewage	... ..	22
Public Highways	... ..	23
HOUSING	... ..	23
SUMMARY OF WORK DONE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS	... ..	24
FOOD	... ..	26
REPORT OF CITY ANALYST AND BACTERIOLOGIST		27
BACTERIOLOGICAL, PATHOLOGICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH WORK DONE	... ..	29

CITY COUNCIL OF GIBRALTAR

Chairman.

Councillor J. A. HASSAN.

Vice-Chairman.

Councillor A. J. BALDORINO.

Councillor E. J. ALVAREZ.

Councillor O. L. CHAMBERLAND.

Councillor Colonel R. L. C. COLVILL, R.E.

Councillor J. T. ELLICOTT.

Councillor Dr. J. J. GIRALDI, M.D., M.R.C.P.

Councillor Dr. H. W. HOWES (*Director of Education*).

Councillor C. McGRAIL.

Councillor W/Commr. R. P. NELMS, D.F.C., R.A.F.

Councillor R. J. PELIZA.

Councillor Capt. G. T. PHILIP, C.B.E., D.S.O., D.S.C., R.N.

Councillor Dr. R. A. W. PROCTER, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H., D.T.M.
and H. (*Senior Medical Officer*).

Medical Officer of Health.

Major G. M. FLEMING, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
D.P.H., Royal Army Medical Corps.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Public Health Chief Clerk.

**C. E. NORTON, M.R.San.I., A.R.P.S.

Sanitary Inspectors.

A. E. VICTORY, A.R.San.I.

**P. VELLA, A.R.San.I.

**J. SUAREZ, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

**A. TRAVERSO, A.R.San.I.

J. J. TIPPING.

City Analyst and Bacteriologist.

Major D. A. STANLEY, M.B., B.S., B.Sc. (Lond), M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., A.R.I.C., R.A.M.C.

Laboratory Assistants.

H. J. BRUZON, A.I.M.L.T.

M. J. GOMEZ.

Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

Medical Officer in ChargeH. G. TRIAY, M.D., Ch.B.,
D.C.H.R.C.P. & S. (Eng.)

Health VisitorMiss M. F. DAW.

Veterinary Adviser.

*Sergeant P. BARNETT, R.A.V.C.

*Occasional.

**Certificate Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

COLONIAL DEPARTMENT

Colonial Hospital.

Senior Medical Officer.

R. A. W. PROCTER, Esq., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S. (Eng.)
L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Camb.), D.T.M. & H. (Lond),
Medical Officers.

K. J. GILCHRIST, Esq., M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S. (Eng.)

N. H. SKELTON-BROWNE, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond), B.Sc.

J. A. COCHRANE, Esq., M.R.C.S. (Eng), L.R.C.P. (Lond), D.A.

*J. A. Durante, Esq., M.R.C.S. (Eng), L.R.C.P. (Lond).

Public Vaccinator.

H. G. TRIAY, Esq., M.D., Ch.B., D.C.H.R.C.P. & S. (Eng.)

Port Medical Officer.

*A. A. RUSSO, Esq., L.R.C.S. (Ire.). L.R.C.P., L.M. (Rotunda)

Assistant Port Medical Officer.

*J. DOTTO, Esq., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Inspector of Food.

Medical Officer of Health.

School Medical Services.

H. G. TRIAY, Esq., M.D., Ch.B., D.C.H.R.C.P. & S. (Eng.)

District Medical Officers.

*F. CARRERAS, Esq., (Spanish Qualifications).

*J. J. VASQUEZ, Esq., L.R.C.P. (Ire.) L.R.C.S. (Ire.) L.M., R.C.P.,
and S, (Ire.) L.M. (Rotunda).

Visiting Dentist.

*A. A. DANINO, Esq., L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.)

*Allowance paid to private medical practitioners as a retaining fee for their services.

BOARD OF HEALTH

The Chief Assistant Secretary (Chairman).

The Deputy Director of Medical Services.
The Senior Medical Officer, Colonial Government.

The Medical Officer of Health, Gibraltar.
The Royal Naval Representative.

The Royal Air Force Representative.

The Port Surgeon.

Secretary—E. H. DAVIS, Esq.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2019 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b31407614>

PREFACE

This report is the first published since 1939, its publication having been suspended, for obvious reasons, during the war years.

In the Report for 1939 (published in 1940) it was stated that on account of certain factors it consisted largely of bare statistical records. The Report for the year 1945, which can rightly be called "a year of transition" cannot even be classed as a document of reliable statistical value capable of furnishing information by which the general health and sanitary services may be judged.

As is well known evacuation disturbed the greater part of the civilian population — both male and female — and during 1945, the repatriation of the evacuees was proceeding at irregular intervals and in varying numbers. The statistics are, therefore, unevenly affected and though the figures given are fortunately in almost every instance to the good, they cannot be taken as an accurate reflection of the state of public health in Gibraltar.

For comparison the following short list is given :—

				1945	<i>Average</i> 1930-1939
Birth rate	...	...	...	34.84	21.88
Death rate	...	...	...	8.88	15.51
Zymotic death rate	...	...	...	0.28	0.5
Infantile mortality rate	...	...	...	32.89	63.84

This satisfactory state of affairs was obtained in spite of the fact that many of the repatriates were housed under conditions which gave the Medical Authorities grave concern, conditions brought about by ravages of war, military occupation of premises and the inevitable irregularities and difficulties attendant on the housing of people at short notice, and many of whom had not been living in Gibraltar prior to evacuation but whose priority claim entitled them to a quick return.

The story of the evacuation of the civil population might well call for a volume to itself. The removal of some 15,000 of a population of 20,000 a distance of one thousand or more miles

(to Great Britain; Madeira; or Jamaica) represents a migration comparable with anything that has taken place in Europe during the war years. In their temporary homes these evacuees were faced with a different climate, different food, different epidemic risks. Part of a generation of children has been born and lived the first two or three years of its life away from its natural habitat. Yet now that the majority have returned, the immediate effects, on the surface at least, have not been striking. Those of the children who were evacuated to Great Britain were immunised against diphtheria and the incidence of that disease has been low since their return. The important work of immunisation is being continued in Gibraltar at the School and Infant Welfare Clinics. Nor does there appear to be any marked proneness to intestinal infections, such as might be expected after an abrupt change of diet and climate. There may be cultural or psychological repercussions which will only make themselves felt over a long period, but from the public health point of view, apart from their rehousing, the returning evacuees have brought no particular problems.

Here the point must be stressed of the general sanitary condition of most of the houses. Six years of war with houses practically unattended to, through non-occupancy, war requirements, lack of materials and labour, has caused very considerable deterioration. It is in an effort to remedy this that the Building Priorities Board has shewn its effectiveness in curtailing ambitious private reconstruction whilst giving every impetus to the reconditioning of houses.

The salient features of the year were :—

1. The reconstitution of the City Council.
2. Regular meetings of the newly re-established Board of Health, composed of the heads of the different health services of Gibraltar, civil, naval, military and air force, where all medical matters concerned with the Colony were fully discussed and concerted policy decided upon.
3. The establishment of the Child Welfare Centre now run on modern lines and which is well staffed and under full-time supervision of a specially qualified medical practitioner. (Following a recommendation by the Chief Medical Adviser to the Colonial Office that better continuity would be obtained if the

Child Welfare Service and the School Medical Service became the responsibility of a single department, the City Council, in December 1945, handed over the Infant Welfare Clinic to the Colonial Government. The report of the Medical Officer in Charge of the Clinic is appended).

4. The appointment of a Tuberculosis Medical Officer who will eventually take over the King George V. Hospital for diseases of the chest. This institution is equipped with all modern requirements, adequately staffed, and the appointed Officer is a physician with special qualifications in this branch of medicine.

5. 1945 saw, in addition, the beginning of the intensive anti-rat campaign, of which it is hoped to give a full account in the next Annual Report.

The favour and acceptance given them by the general public from the outset is ample proof of the necessity and success of these enterprises.

Although the year under review saw the end of the world conflict, the return to proper peacetime conditions cannot be anticipated before the next Annual Report is due. There are still many problems to be tackled, some the immediate consequence of the war, others a part of long-term policy of improvement.

G. M. FLEMING,

Major, R.A.M.C.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
City Council of Gibraltar,
24th October, 1946.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

(Kindly supplied by the Senior Meteorological Officer,
R.A.F., North Front). ...

Weather Summary for the year 1945.

During the first few months of the year, weather was very dry, the six months to June resulting in a rainfall of only 146 mms. which is less than one third of normal. February, in particular, was remarkably dry. Dry conditions persisted until October, but November and December gave more rainfall than normal, 442 mms. being recorded against a normal of some 300 mms. This excess was mainly due to very heavy rainfall at the end of November, 146 mms. being recorded on 29th November. This is the heaviest rainfall recorded in a single day since records were started at Windmill Hill in 1938.

Sunshine was generally above normal, only July and November showing amounts below normal. February was a particularly sunny month for the time of year.

Temperatures were well below normal in January and August and well above in April and December, and a little above normal in most other months. The highest temperature of the year was 94°F, recorded on 6th September. The previous highest temperature recorded in this month since 1938 was 85°F. April also showed abnormally high temperatures, 85°F being reached on two days.

Gales occurred in January, September, October and December, a gust of 91 m.p.h. being recorded on one occasion during the last month.

NOTE :—Figures and normals mentioned refer to observations taken at Windmill Hill. In some instances conditions at the centre of the town would be appreciably different. For example, the duration of sunshine is generally greater at Windmill Hill since it is much less affected by Levanter cloud.

LAT. 36°07 N. LONG. 05 21'W.

WINDMILL HILL FLATS

HEIGHT: 393 FEET ABOVE M.S.L.

Months at MSL	TEMPERATURE OF										REL. HUMIDITY				CLOUD AMOUNT								
	MEANS										HUMIDITY (o/o)				(0-10/10)								
	Dry Bulb				Max. A.	Min. B.	Mean of A and B	Diff. from average	HIGHEST		LOWEST												
	09		21						Max.	Date	Min.	Date	Min on grass	Date									
	03	09	15	21																			
Jan	1018'9	47'8	47'9	53'2	49'8	54'1	46'5	50'3	-3'2	62	29	38	5 13	35	78	76	67	77	4'1	03	09	15	21
Feb.....	1028'2	54'2	54'7	58'5	55'3	59'9	51'7	55'8	+0'8	65	7	49	4 5 14	45	76	79	74	79	3'0	5'1	4'2	4'9	4'4
Mar	1025'1	55'3	56'8	59'3	56'4	60'8	53'2	57'0	0'0	73	31	47	26	42	81	79	75	83	5'4	6'8	5'3	4'5	4'5
April....	1018'3	60'4	63'1	65'9	62'0	68'0	58'0	63'0	+3'5	85	21 22	54	8 13	47	85	82	75	85	3'5	5'0	5'3	3'9	3'9
May ...	1014'5	62'0	65'1	68'8	64'1	70'8	59'7	65'3	+1'8	78	20	55	1	50	85	77	69	80	3'1	4'5	4'0	2'9	2'9
June ...	1017'2	66'3	69'5	72'8	68'6	74'0	64'7	69'3	+0'8	80	19 27 28	61	1 2	56	88	82	75	85	3'7	5'5	3'4	3'7	3'7
July ...	1016'2	68'0	71'6	74'8	69'2	77'7	65'5	71'6	+0'1	86	20	62	11	55	87	79	73	87	4'0	3'0	1'5	1'5	1'5
Aug.....	1013'9	67'6	70'4	74'6	69'7	76'6	65'2	70'9	-2'1	83	11	62	19 28	56	87	81	72	83	3'0	4'1	2'0	3'1	3'1
Sept ...	1018'0	69'1	71'4	74'8	70'5	77'1	65'9	71'5	+1'0	94	6	62	13 26	59	84	78	69	83	3'7	4'6	3'2	3'4	3'4
Oct	1019'4	64'1	65'7	67'9	64'9	69'3	62'4	65'9	+0'4	73	15	53	29	49	89	84	77	86	3'5	5'2	5'1	3'7	3'7
Nov	1017'9	60'3	61'2	64'0	61'9	65'8	58'1	61'9	+1'9	76	9	54	5 13	49	89	86	79	88	6'1	7'5	7'4	6'4	6'4
Dec.....	1019'2	57'3	57'7	61'2	58'1	63'2	54'0	58'6	+3'6	67	2 17 19 20	47	12 21	44	82	80	75	82	4'1	6'7	5'5	3'3	3'3
Year ...	1018'9	61'0	62'9	66'3	62'5	68'1	58'6	63'4	+0'7	94	6 Sept.	38	5' 13 Jan	35	84	80	73	83	3'9	5'2	4'3	3'6	3'6

Months	RAINFALL			SUNSHINE		WEATHER								
	Total mm.	Max in 24 h	Date	Daily Mean (hrs)	o/o of Poss	No. of Days of								
						Rain	Snow	Hail	Thun- der	Clear Sky	Over- cast Sky	Gales	Fog	Frost
Jan	83.1	22.3	13	6.27	62.2	11	0	0	1	3	0	2	0	0
Feb	3.7	1.8	22	8.72	80.4	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Mar	39.9	16.7	25	7.76	65.0	4	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0
April	12.8	7.3	10	9.33	71.0	4	0	1	2	2	1	0	0	0
May	5.9	3.4	12	10.73	76.1	6	0	1	4	1	0	0	0	0
June	1.0	0.7	27	9.67	66.3	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
July	Trace	Tr.	5	12.17	84.9	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
Aug	2.0	2.0	10	11.07	81.8	1	0	0	1	4	0	0	2	0
Sept	0.2	0.2	20	8.91	71.9	1	0	0	1	3	0	1	0	0
Oct	22.0	10.5	18	7.40	65.7	5	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Nov	235.6	145.9	29	4.58	44.3	12	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Dec	205.8	75.4	20	5.75	58.9	12	0	0	5	0	1	6	0	0
Year	612.0	145.9	Nov. 29	8.54	64.4	61	0	3	22	20	4	10	2	0

WIND

Total No. of observations at 03, 09, 15, & 21hr. of-

MONTHS	FORCE				DIRECTIONS							
	8 or over	4-7	1-3	Calm	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW
Jan.	5	102	17	0	0	2	9	1	2	0	62	48
Feb.	0	58	46	8	0	27	31	2	0	3	23	18
Mar.	0	75	40	9	0	7	80	5	0	5	12	6
April.	0	66	42	12	0	7	56	4	2	2	16	21
May.	0	71	48	5	0	3	45	3	1	4	35	28
June.	0	62	50	8	0	5	73	10	0	2	16	6
July.	0	67	55	2	0	7	36	3	1	3	53	19
Aug.	0	86	34	4	0	0	46	7	1	1	39	26
Sept.	0	52	62	6	3	0	65	10	3	1	18	14
Oct.	0	80	41	2	0	3	72	3	1	3	24	16
Nov.	1	67	51	2	5	4	44	10	3	0	19	33
Dec.	6	61	51	6	16	1	22	13	3	1	19	43
Year.	12	847	537	64	24	66	579	71	17	25	337	278

VITAL STATISTICS

The civil population of Gibraltar as shewn in the Records and Permit Office of the Police Department consisted, at the end of 1945, of the following :—

			<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Children</i>	<i>Totals</i>
British Subjects	...	...	6,764	6,950	3,734	17,448
Resident aliens	...	...	1,050	700	34	1,784
Grand totals	...	...	7,814	7,650	3,768	19,232

DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered among the resident British population was one hundred and fifty-five; and in addition seven deaths were registered among resident aliens, making a total of one hundred and sixty-two.

These figures provide a death rate of 8.88 per thousand for the fixed population and 8.42 per thousand for the total population.

The principal causes of death were :—

Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	30
Heart diseases	...	...	...	...	...	21
Cerebral haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	19

The number of deaths in each month and quarter of the year was as follows :—

January	...	...	16	April	...	...	14
February	...	...	12	May	...	...	11
March	...	...	12	June	...	...	15
1st Quarter	...	...	40	2nd Quarter	...	...	40
July	...	...	13	October	...	...	9
August	...	...	14	November	...	...	17
September	...	...	16	December	...	...	13
3rd Quarter	...	...	43	4th Quarter	...	...	39

**Causes of Death in the Civil Population during 1945, According to the International Abbreviated List
with Age and Sex Incidence**

Cause of Death	All Ages		under 1 year		1/2 years		2/5 years		5/15 years		15/25 years		25/45 years		45/55 years		55/65 years		65 and over	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Influenza	1	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	1	—
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Tuberculosis of the nervous system	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	3	8	3	6	7
Cancer, malignant tumours	19	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	1	3	2
Haemorrhage, apoplexy and softening of the brain	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	2	4	4	3	2	—	2	5
Heart diseases	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chronic bronchitis	12	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	5	—
Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Other diseases of the respiratory system	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Diarrhoea and enteritis	7	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Cirrhosis of the liver	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute and chronic nephritis	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	2	—
Congenital debility and malformations	5	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accidents of pregnancy and parturition	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Old age	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	9
Violent deaths (suicide excluded)	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Other diseases	25	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	1	2	—	1	—	7	5
Diseases not stated or ill-defined	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	162	9	11	—	—	—	1	3	1	5	2	10	8	12	11	18	8	34	29	

BIRTHS AND INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of children born during the year was six hundred and eight, three hundred and twenty of these were males and two hundred and eighty-eight females, giving a birth rate of 34.84 per thousand population.

Twenty children under one year of age died during the year, giving an infantile mortality rate of 32.89 per thousand births.

CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS.

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1/2 weeks	2/3 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1/3 months	3/6 months	6/9 months	9/12 months	Total under one year
Congenital debility and malformations	5	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	5
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	5
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	4
Tuberculous meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Other causes	5	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	5
Totals ...	10	—	—	10	6	2	2	—	20

INFANT AND CHILD WELFARE.

This service was started by the City Council of Gibraltar in January 1945.

Number of sessions held	145
Number of babies registered throughout year	608
Number of attendances throughout the year.....	6,998
Average attendance per session	48.26 %
National Dried Milk (to babies and nursing mothers)	11,719 lbs.
Adexolin	22,400 capsules
Adexolin, liquid	159 ozs.
Cod Liver Oil	36½ gallons
Malt and Cod Liver Oil	368 lbs.
Fersolate	21,467 pills
Ostocalcium	9,510 tablets
Gentian Violet	493 pills
Vitamin "C"	5,501 tablets

The number of home visits made by the Health Visitor was, 628.

Primary vaccination was carried out in 425 babies and 41 revaccinations in older children.

Breast feeding in Gibraltar is on the decline. A short survey shewed the following:—

Breast Feeding.

1st month	311
2nd month	171
3rd month	114
6th month	40

Breast and Complementary feeding.

1st month	54
2nd month	119
3rd month	84
6th month	60

Lectures on infant feeding and care of the child were given to mothers and voluntary workers, throughout the year. The educated type of mother was a regular attendant, but unfortunately those in greatest need of instruction did not attend.

Preventive medicine is new to Gibraltar and many mothers do not yet understand the necessity of visiting the clinic when their infants are well, and a very large proportion only attend when there is something wrong with the baby—or for the purpose of obtaining milk at cost or reduced prices.

There is no doubt that both School Medical Service and Infant Welfare have supplied a much needed organisation for the health education of the people of Gibraltar.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

This service was initiated by the City Council of Gibraltar in January 1945.

General Conditions of School Premises from the Health Standpoint:

These are very unsatisfactory and cannot be improved except by the building of new schools designed on modern lines.

Extent and Scope of Medical Inspection:

Owing to existing conditions, it was decided to inspect every child attending school, irrespective of age groups. A thorough clinical examination was carried out including otoscopic examinations and X-rays and laboratory tests when indicated by the medical history or clinical condition of the child. Children were examined at school, and those requiring further investigations were referred to the school clinic. One thousand six hundred and ninety-five children were inspected. There were forty-four school clinics held, with six hundred and twenty-eight attendances. No weights or heights were recorded through lack of facilities.

Conditions Revealed by Medical Inspections:

Deficient clothing.....	5
Nutritional anaemia	486
Skin conditions (mostly impetigo)	98
Dirty skin	192
Ringworm	13
Dental caries.....	1133
Enlarged cervical glands.....	507
Enlarged tonsils and adenoids	254
Nasal obstruction (exclusive of above)	82

Mentally backward	12
Nocturnal enuresis	12
Negativism	15
Speech defects	5
Habit spasm	6
Chorea	1
Thread worms	15
Undescended testicles	122
Hydrocele	3
Markedly thin	151
Poor posture	188
Very poor physique (undersized and thin).....	287
Obesity	32
Constipation	199
Knock-knees	17
Chest conditions	200
Cardio-vascular conditions.....	29

Means of Treatment available:

Nutritional aids were issued as follows :—

Iron	1072 children
Adexolin	109 „
Ostocalcium	217 „
Cod Liver Oil	965 „
Dried Milk	153 „

Minor ailments were treated at the school clinic. Conditions requiring more prolonged medical attention were referred to hospital or private medical practitioners.

Infectious disease and Methods of Prevention and Detection:

These come under the direct control of the Medical Officer of Health.

Cleanliness inspections of school children were carried out by Miss Daw, Health Visitor, involving 3,107 examinations and re-examinations. Of these 2,383 were found clean and 724 not clean. Most of the latter rapidly improved with treatment, and only 25 exclusions from school were necessary. Taking into account local home and school conditions, I consider this very satisfactory.

Sixty-three home visits were made in connection with school children.

Eyesight :

Eyesight was tested by the Health Visitor in 859 children of school age and 215 of these required to be seen by the Ophthalmologist for defective vision.

H. G. TRIAY, M.D., Ch.B., D.C.H.

Medical Officer in Charge,
School Medical Service and
Infant and Child Welfare.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

No diseases occurred in epidemic form during 1945, the notifications being evenly distributed throughout the year.

The high incidence of Pulmonary Tuberculosis is accounted for by the fact that, through absence from Gibraltar, no cases have been brought to notice since 1939.

The cases of Typhus were all evidently of the murine type, one case being confirmed by a specimen sent to the London School of Hygiene for Rickettsial agglutination. Great stress was laid on the examination of patients and contacts for body lice until the disease was classified. The premises concerned were subsequently treated with D.D.T.

One hundred and two cases of notifiable infectious diseases were reported during the year. Of the seven deaths from this group of diseases, all were due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis. The zymotic death rate was .28 per thousand population.

DIPHTHERIA.

Seven cases occurred, one in August and six in October. Two of the cases occurred in children who had been inoculated against the disease in the United Kingdom. All were of a mild nature and recovered.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Eight cases occurred distributed throughout the year. There were no deaths.

RABIES.

One case occurred in a dog which had been imported from Tangier and was undergoing a period of quarantine in the kennels at Rosia. All those who had been in contact with the dog were sent to the Pasteur Institute, Tangier, for advice as to whether inoculation against the disease was called for. The Director of that Institute after examining the contacts decided against any prophylactic measures. This occurrence led to the stringent prohibition of importation of dogs otherwise than from the United Kingdom.

Quarterly Return of Notifications of Infectious Diseases—Civil Population 1945.

	January	February	March	1st Qr.	April	May	June	2nd Qr.	July	August	Sept.	3rd Qr.	October	November	December	4th Qr.	Total	Deaths
Measles	2	6	2	...	...	17	1	6	1	3	...	2	4	...	12	7
Tuberculosis	2	2	5	...	6	9	...	1	6	1	11	3	1	...	9	42	...
Enteric Fever...	...	3	1	3	4	1	1	6	1	2	...	3	...	1	...	2	8	...
Chicken Pox	...	3	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	3	...	...	...	...	11	...
Dysentery	1	1	...	2	1	3	...	2	2	4	...	3	...	3	11	...
Typhus (murine type)...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	3	...	4	6	...
Undulant Fever	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
C. Spinal Fever	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	...
Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Ophthalmia	1	...
Neonatorum	1	1	...	1	6	...	...	6	7	...
Diphtheria	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
	...	15	9	24	6	9	12	27	3	16	7	26	11	10	4	25	102	7

Cases landed from the bay or cases brought into the town for treatment

	January	February	March	1st Qr.	April	May	June	2nd Qr.	July	August	Sept.	3rd Qr.	October	November	December	4th Qr.	Total	Deaths
Enteric Fever	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	3	1
Typhus (murine type)...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Measles ...	...	4	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...
Tuberculosis ...	...	1	1	2	2	2	1	3	2	2	...	4	...	3	1	1	13	1
Chicken Pox	...	...	1	1	2	1	...	2	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	...
Dysentery ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Undulant Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
	1	7	2	10	2	4	1	7	3	2	2	7	...	3	1	4	28	4

Age and Sex incidence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases—Civil Population 1945.

(15)

Notifiable Disease	NUMBER OF CASES														Districts		No. of cases removed to Hospital		
	All Ages	Under 1 year		1 and under 5 years		5 and under 15 years		15 and under 25 years		25 and under 45 years		45 and under 65 years		65 and over		North		Central	South
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.						
Measles	12	—	2	—	6	—	2	2	1	10	1	—	—	—	2	2	12	—	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	42	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	2	6	8	1	—	—	—	33	7	18
Enteric Fever	8	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	1	8
Chicken Pox	11	—	—	1	—	5	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	1	—
Dysentery	11	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	6	—	2	—	—	—	—	10	1	—
Typhus	6	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	5
Undulant Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Puerperal Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum	1	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Diphtheria	7	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	4
Totals	102	1	2	2	7	17	8	11	5	23	9	10	5	—	2	2	90	10	50

Monthly Incidence of Infectious Diseases—Showing Number of Cases and Deaths

C = cases D = deaths

Months.	Measles		Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Enteric Fever		Chicken Pox		Dysentery		Typhus		Undulant Fever		Cerebro-spinal Fever		Puerperal Fever		Ophthalmia Ntm.		Diphtheria	
	C.	D.	C.	D.	C.	D.	C.	D.	C.	D.	C.	D.	C.	D.	C.	D.	C.	D.	C.	D.	C.	D.
January	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
February	2	—	3	1	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
March	—	—	2	1	1	—	4	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
April	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
May	—	—	6	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
June	—	—	9	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
July	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
August	2	—	6	1	2	—	2	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—
September	1	—	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
October	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
November	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
December	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	12	—	47	7	8	—	11	—	11	—	6	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	7	—

INVESTIGATION AND PREVENTION OF OTHER DISEASES.

MOSQUITOES.

No new species of mosquitoes were identified. The following table shows the activities in connection with anti-mosquito campaign which has been undertaken by a reduced staff with no additions during the intensive breeding season.

Visits paid to premises	27,442
Breeding places found	102
in wooden tubs	25
in wooden barrels	5
in earthenware vessels	1
Miscellaneous breeding places	71

MOSQUITO CAMPAIGN RETURN—YEAR 1945

T = tubs. B = barrels. E/V = earthenware vessels. O = others.

Week ending	Visits paid to premises	Town Lower			Town Middle			Town Upper			South			North			Totals	
		T. B.	E/V.	O.	T. B.	E/V.	O.	T. B.	E/V.	O.	T. B.	E/V.	O.	T. B.	E/V.	O.		
Jan.	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Feb.	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mar.	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	31	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Apr.	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
May	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
June	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
July	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Aug.	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sept.	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Oct.	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nov.	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dec.	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	31	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	9	102

“Others” include pits, drinking troughs, washing troughs, catch pits, wells, gullies, fresh water tanks, fire buckets, galvanised iron baths, old tins, flower pots, vases, bottles, grindstone receptacles, flushing tanks, underground tanks, wash boilers, &c.

SUMMARY

Tubs ...	...	...	...	...	25	...	...	...	...	2
Barrels ...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...
Earthenware receptacles	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	81
Others ...	...	...	...	...	71	...	...	...	...	...
Grand Total ...	...	...	...	...	102	...	...	...	...	...

FLIES.

Flies have not been unduly prevalent during the year.

RATS.

Rat repression measures have been somewhat curtailed throughout the war mainly owing to the number of houses rendered inaccessible due to closure during evacuation.

Trapping and laying of poisons was however carried out where possible, one man being employed permanently on this work.

During the month of July, 1945, advantage was taken of the visit to Malta of two experts from the Infestation Division of the Ministry of Food to enlist their help and advice on modern methods for rat and mouse extermination.

Mr. W. McCauley Gracie, the Director of Infestation Control paid a visit to Gibraltar, made a cursory survey of conditions here and a Committee, representing the different branches of the Services, the Colonial Government and the City Council was formed, to put into effect the recommendations of Mr. Gracie, chief among which was that, apart from the relevant means of destroying these pests, a combined and simultaneous effort by all the authorities concerned was imperative if any measure of success was to be attained. Representatives from the three Services and the City Council visited Malta where Mr. S. A. Barnett (the other expert sent by the Ministry of Food) was carrying out an intensive campaign and instructing the personnel there on modern methods of rodent repression.

Mr. Barnett visited Gibraltar in September, 1945, and advised generally on the means to be employed here.

Poison and baits were ordered from the United Kingdom, and on the express requirements of Mr. Barnett, the old methods of direct poisoning, etc., were discontinued pending the arrival of the new poisons. It was not, however until the beginning of December that the poisons arrived and a start could be made. At the time of writing this report the ultimate results cannot properly be estimated though reports coming in from heavily infested areas which have been treated are most encouraging.

The number of rats caught and found dead from January to September, 1945 (when all trapping, etc., was stopped pending the putting into practice of new methods) was as follows:—

	<i>Trapped</i>	<i>Found Dead</i>
January	63	4
February	70	4
March	147	1

MEDICAL WORK DONE FOR THE COUNCIL

The following numbers of men have been examined prior to their employment by the Council:—

January	22
February	27
March	10
April	20
May	55
June	72
July	75
August	40
September	68
October	43
November	26
December	20
Total	478

DISINFECTION

Month	Beds and Mattresses	Bolsters and Pillows	Blankets and Quilts	Sheets	Counter-panes	Sundries	Totals
January	4	5	7	9		14	39
February	13	8	27	4		17	69
March	18	11	24	9	2	26	90
April	10	10	12	4	1	11	78
May	38	48	68			20	174
June	10						10
July	208	8	2	6		6	230
August	28	44	10	6		32	120
September	25	13	25	2		16	81
October	8	8	7	7		4	34
November	20	24	21	11		4	80
December	2	2	2			2	8
Totals	384	181	23	58	3	152	1013

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The number of cases conveyed by City Council Ambulance during the year was as follows :—

	<i>Local Cases</i>	<i>Bay Cases</i>
Pneumonia	3	8
Diphtheria	1	
Enteric Fever	1	5
Dysentery	1	5
Typhus	2	
Scarlatina	1	1
Pleurisy		3
Varicella		1
Malaria		3
Tuberculosis	4	9
Erysipelas		1
Venereal disease	1	6
Appendicitis	5	7
Maternity cases	38	
Injuries	38	37
Dead bodies	164	5
Miscellaneous	89	84
Totals	348	175

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

I am indebted to the City Engineer, Mr. F. L. Ruggeri, M.Inst., M. & Cy.E., M.I.Struct.E., for assistance in the preparation of this section of the Report.

Rainfall and Water Supply.

Reservoir No. 10 (1,414,175 gallons nominal) was completed and brought into use. The total reservoir storage at the end of 1945 was 13,848,742 gallons.

Average of recorded rainfall on various Council gauges situated at different levels=22.51 inches from January to December, 1945.

Collection of rain water from catchments was 13,301,453 gallons.

Potable water pumped into reservoirs from wells at North Front was 29,010,880 gallons.

The Supply of Potable water was as follows:—

To Shipping	7,745,120 gallons
To the Admiralty	3,921,000 „
To the Town	35,725,579 „
Total	47,391,699 gallons

A quantity of 14,237,234 gallons of potable water was pumped from Dockyard during the year.

Brackish water pumped during the year was 367,958,100 gallons.

Collection and Disposal of House Refuse.

House refuse is collected once daily throughout the year. The average daily collection was 22 tons. A scheme for the construction of a new Destructor, of larger capacity than the existing one, was approved by the Council and work therein will commence during 1946.

Sewage.

The sewers generally have been well maintained during the year.

The erection of temporary houses at the Glacis Site necessitated the construction of a sewage ejector to discharge into the existing rising main leading to the Sewage Pumping Station at Orange Bastion.

Street Cleansing.

This work has been satisfactorily performed but constant and careful supervision is found necessary to prevent slackness and dirty streets.

Public Highways.

Owing to extreme pressure of passive defence works during the war years and shortage of materials and labour the upkeep of highways had to be rather neglected.

A scheme for general improvements to roads was approved by the Council and work will commence as soon as the necessary plant and materials are available.

HOUSING.

During the year 106 temporary and other houses were completed and the foundations laid for many more. The new houses were distributed as follows:—

Glacis Estate	63
Arengo's	8
Hargrave's Barracks (permanent buildings)	17
Hospital Ramp	4
Nissen Huts	14
<hr/>	
Total	106
<hr/>	

The overcrowding survey of 1938 showed 1,202 families or 52.19% of the population overcrowded. The present population is smaller than the 1938 one by only seven hundred odd, and at the same time accommodation has diminished, as before the war some 2,000 persons either lived in War Department property which is not now available for civilian occupation, or in property that has since been bombed and demolished. At the end of 1945 there were still approximately three thousand evacuees waiting to be repatriated from Northern Ireland. Added to this the year in question showed a freak birth rate of fourteen per thousand more than that of 1938. The evacuation of the

civilian population and its subsequent piecemeal repatriation will have brought about a considerable reshuffle and the individuals who were overcrowded in 1938 may now be in a better or worse situation than before. But it is reasonable to conclude that until the extensive rehousing scheme has been completed a degree of overcrowding more severe than that revealed by the 1938 survey will persist

Permanent Houses.

The erection of part of the Colonial Government Housing Scheme was started at Shorthorn Farm Site in August, 1945, and good progress made by the end of the year.

The site was difficult and before the actual building works were commenced, a considerable amount of preparatory work, involving the construction of massive retaining walls had to be done.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS DURING 1945.

Complaints Received :

Written	23
Verbal	1182

Premises inspected :

Informal notices served	402
-------------------------------	-----

Nuisances found :

Defective drains	310
Obstructed drains	594
Defective W.Cs.	328
Defective W.C. fittings	452
" water fittings	425
" rainwater pipes	106
" eavesgutters	106
" roofs	110
" yard paving	21
Dampness	54
Dirty premises	660
Defective or no dustbin	212
Other minor defects	1258
Suspected pollution of water in underground tanks	30
Underground tank not insect proof	11
Brackish water tank not insect proof	18
Brackish water running to waste	203

Miscellaneous Services :

Samples of food and drugs taken for analysis	52
Premises disinfected for infectious disease	25
Premises disinfected for vermin, &c.	36
Articles disinfected at North Front disinfecting station	1013
Visits of enquiry re infectious disease	53

Cases removed in Ambulance

local	184
bay	170

Visits to milk shops	116
Visits to Eating houses	942
Visits to mineral water factories	201
Visits to common lodging houses	90
Visits to premises on which notice for abatement of nuisance has been served and are revisited for the purpose of ascertaining if requirements are being complied with	1995
Vaccination notices served	314
Legal proceedings instituted.....	—
Foodstuffs, &c., condemned as unsound (tins)	1182
Street water fittings found defective	179

FOOD IN RELATION TO HEALTH AND DISEASE

The routine supervision of milk shops, eating houses and mineral water factories was carried out by the Sanitary Inspector, who also undertook the collecting of samples of food for analysis.

All fresh fruit and vegetables imported daily from Spain, for sale by market stallholders and by street vendors passes through the Public Markets, for inspection by the market staff, before being exposed for sale to the public.

Supplies of fresh fish were received almost daily from Algieras at the average daily rate of 5,000 pounds. This was inspected at Waterport by the Market Inspector before being sold wholesale and any fish considered to be unfit for human consumption was ordered to be reshipped and taken back to Algieras. A further inspection of the fish was carried out at the Fish Market by the Market Inspector on duty there.

Small consignments of frozen offal have been inspected during 1945, and the following are the quantities imported : —

<i>Ox livers</i>	<i>Ox tongues</i>	<i>Ox kidneys</i>	<i>Ox tails</i>
195,820 lbs.	21,251 lbs.	80,241 lbs.	14,574 lbs.
<i>Ox hearts</i>			<i>Ox tripe</i>
12,978 lbs.			39,358 lbs.
<i>Pigs' hearts</i>	<i>Lambs' hearts</i>		<i>Sheeps' hearts</i>
1,195 lbs.	2,601 lbs.		772 lbs.

The slaughter house has been closed during the war period, and did not operate in 1945. All meat sold in the Market was frozen. Quantities imported in the course of the year were : —

Beef	1,761,108 lbs.
Mutton	821,102 lbs.

Fresh Goat's Milk imported from Spain was sold at the Public Markets and the average daily import varied from 40 to 50 pints. Inspection of this milk was carried out by the Public Health Department.

REPORT ON WORK OF PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES

BY

MAJOR D. A. STANLEY, R.A.M.C.

CITY ANALYST AND BACTERIOLOGIST, GIBRALTAR

During 1945 the tendency for the pathological work to overshadow completely the analytical work continued; the latter constituted only about 0.5 per cent of the total. The recent rapid advances in medicine and the tendency for medicine to become increasingly scientific have caused the laboratory to be used more and more—the tendency will continue and will necessitate constant expansion and constant revision of methods to avoid becoming out of date. New procedures introduced in 1945 were :—

1. Penicillin became available early in the year in small quantities—by December larger amounts were available and it was extensively employed at the Colonial Hospital; this laboratory dispensed the penicillin.
2. A civilian Blood Bank was commenced; with the civilian population returned and the Forces considerably reduced, it became impracticable to maintain a bank on Army blood only. The possibility of applying in Gibraltar the latest work on Rh factor is being investigated.
3. Improved methods for the investigations of typhoid and salmonella infections were introduced and the new methods introduced for the diagnosis of dysentery in 1944 were continued. The diagnosis of tubercle was improved by overhauling the microscopical and cultural methods; the diagnosis by fluorescent microscopy was considered but it was difficult to obtain the apparatus as it has not yet become a standard method. These diseases are extremely important in Gibraltar.
4. Cooperation with specialist laboratories in the United Kingdom was introduced.
 - a. The Medical Research Council Mycological Laboratory identified for us a rare fungus isolated from a case of pulmonary mycosis—namely *Candida Tropicalis*.

- b. The Medical Research Council Salmonella Laboratory identified an organism causing disease — Salmonella New Brunswick: this was the first time that the M.R.C. Laboratory had met a case of this organism causing disease in man. The case was thoroughly investigated.
 - c. The University of Glasgow investigated one case of mild typhus; about four cases occur annually; by the new method of rickettsial agglutinations it was proved that this mild typhus, endemic in Gibraltar, was murine typhus (*Rickettsia Mooseri*); this had been long assumed but never before proved.
 - d. The Medical Research Council's Emergency Vaccine Laboratory examined a few samples of blood by leptospiral agglutination for Weil's Disease. No evidence of the disease within the Colony was found.
 - e. The Ministry of Health's Standardised reagents for Wasserman and Kahn tests were introduced as a routine measure. The Gonococcal Complement Fixation Test was introduced.
 - f. The London County Council's Standardised culture media was introduced as a routine measure—this is a recent advance in laboratory practice and the same London County Council media are used by the Forces pathological services, and the Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service in the United Kingdom.
5. Histological work, which could not be performed before the war as the Colony possessed no pathologist, was undertaken.
6. The effectiveness of the chlorination of the water from North Front Wells was examined and certain revisions in practice were recommended.

It is considered that the Pathological Service will be improved when a small laboratory for simple routine procedures only, is commenced at the Colonial Hospital, with one skilled technician in attendance; the more complex work must be done at the City Council Laboratory.

D. A. STANLEY, M.B., B.S., A.R.I.C.,
Major, R.A.M.C.,

City Analyst and Bacteriologist,
Gibraltar.

BACTERIOLOGICAL, PATHOLOGICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH WORK.

Variety and number of specimens which come under this heading are listed below :—

Water.

Underground tanks, etc., B. Coli	323
Reservoirs	242
Wells, North Front Cl2	3330
do. B. Coli	117

Swabs.

For K.L.B. etc.—throat	278
For K.L.B. etc.—eye and ear	54

Sputa.

For Tuberculosis	594
------------------------	-----

Blood.

Wasserman and Kahn reaction	3978
Widal, T.A.B., etc.	109
Count	318
Smears for malaria, anthrax, etc.	45
Sugar estimations, sugar tolerance tests	278
Urea estimations, urea concentration factor	49
Cultures for enteric, streptococci, &c.	50
Calcium, Van den Bergh and Icterus Index	15
Sedimentation rate	55
Gonococcal complement fixation test	67
Grouping	66

Cerebro Spinal Fluid.

Wassermann and general examination	69
Cytology, culture, etc.	8

Pleural Fluids.

Cytology, culture, &c.....	8
----------------------------	---

Urines.

Analysis—and bacteriological	1498
Urea estimation	8

Pus.

For gonococcus and other organisms	524
--	-----

Sera.

From V.S. for Tr. Pallida (dark ground)	136
---	-----

Faeces.

For bacteriological examination	448
---------------------------------------	-----

Breast Milk.

For chemical analysis	6
-----------------------------	---

Rats.

For Plague	95
------------------	----

Gastric Contents.

Including factional test meal.....	255
------------------------------------	-----

Guineapig.

Inoculation for K.L.B. and T.B.	19
--------------------------------------	----

Histological.

Cutting, fixing, staining sections	41
--	----

Miscellaneous.

Penicillin dispensing, solutions for injections	131
Eye drops, oinments, local applications	178

13,384

